water quality monitoring stations have been sel up. Monitoring data on air and water quality are documented.

ix. A programme for phasing out of lead content in petrol is under implementation. Unleaded petrol with catalytic converter fitted vehicles has been introduced in four metropolitan cities to begin with.

x. More stringent norms for vehicular emissions have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

xi. Ministry of Surface Transport has been asked to instruct Delhi Transport Corporation that polluting buses and those under lease by the State Transport Authorities should not outshed from 1st January, 1996.

News-Report captioned "Several Species Facing Extinction"

40. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the News-report captioned "Several Species facing extinction" appearing in "The Statesman" dated December 23, 1996;

(b) if so, the comparative figures of population of each of the endangered species as per figures of last three censuses; and

(c) the steps taken and proposed to be taken to preserve and promote the endangered species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The comparative figures of last three censuses of major endangered species is given below :

S. No	Name of Species	Year 1984	1989	1993
1.	Tiger	4005	4334	3759
2.	Leopard	4744	6763	6828
3.	Elephant	18960 (1985)	17635 Minto 24090 Max.	22796 Minto 28346 Max.
4.	Rhinos	N.A.	1591	1566 (1995)
5.	Lion	239 (1985)	284 (1990)	304 (1995)

(c) A number of steps are being taken to conserve endangered species. These include: Providing legal protection against hunting and commercial exploitation under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972; providing assistance to the States for development of national parks and sanctuaries; implementing special projects for endangered species such as Tiger, Elephants, Rhino etc; controlling poaching and illegal trade of wildlife through interdepartmental co-ordination and providing antipoaching infrastructure in specified.

Sea Turtles in Orissa affected by Defence Projects

41. SHRI SOLIPETA RAM ACH ANDRA REDDY:
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Defence projects on the Orissa Coast would jeopardies the nesting of a variety of sea turtles; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to dissuade the Defence Research and Development Organisation not to indulge in any activity that was likely to affect the turtles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has established an Interim Test Range, at Chandipur in Bhadrak District of Orissa. The project has been cleared under the Forest

(Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the following conditions/safeguards to ensure safety of sea turtles :

i. No felling of trees will be done inside the proposed area of diversion for any purpose other than survey and demarcation after obtaining prior permission of the local DFO.

ii. No operation will be undertaken which will likely to disturb the migration and mass nesting of sea turtles i.e. between January to March every year.

iii. The user agency will not, in any manner, cause disturbance to the Mangrove Ecosystem and wildlife habitat.

iv. The islands where from diversion of land has been proposed will remain closed to outsiders excepting Defence and forest personnels.

v. The lights on the Outer-wheeler Islands during the period i.e. between January to March will have to be camouflaged in such a manner that it is not seen from Gahirmatha side, so as to present any disturbance to young turtle.

If these safeguards are properly followed the effect on the sea turtles will be minimal.

River Pollution

42. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that water of some rivers in the country has become unfit for human consumption;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of such rivers;

(c) the reasons for this state of affairs; and

(d) the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (c) According to a study conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), stretches of various rivers were found polluted on account of discharge of untreated domestic waste water and industrial effluents into these rivers. The Statewise and-river wise details alongwith the possible sources of pollution are given in statement *(See* below).

(d) The Ganga Action Plan (GAP) was launched for the abatement of pollution of the river Ganga and its major tributories and the National River Conservation Plan was launched in July, 1995 for pollution abatement of the polluted stretches of major rivers other than those covered under Ganga Action PIan. The Ganga Action PIan has now been merged with the National River Conservation Plan. Under the Plan, sewage generated in the identified towns shall be intercepted, diverted and treated before its discharge into the rivers. Industrial pollution is monitored and controlled under the existing environmental laws.

Statement

SI. No. Name of the State	River	Possible Sources of Pollution
1. Andhra Pradesh	Godavari	Domestic Waste Water
2. Bihar	Subamarekha	Domestic and Industrial Waste Water from Ranchi and Jamshedpur
	Ganga & Damodar	Domestic & Industrial Waste
3. Gujarat	Sabarmati	Domestic and Industrial Waste Water from Ahmedabad